Transmitted herewith is a certified copy of foreign application 2,218,199 filed December 9, 1997 in Canada.

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9 and 11-12 as follows. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i – ii).

C1 1. (Twice Amended) An isolated human PAB II gene comprising a polymorphic GCG repeat in exon I thereof, wherein said polymorphic GCG repeat has the sequence

$$ATG\ (GCG)_{6+n}\ GCA,$$

with n being selected from 1 to 7 and wherein said polymorphic repeat of said GCG repeat is indicative of a disease in a human patient.

3. (Twice Amended) The gene of claim 1, wherein n is selected from 2 to 7, and wherein said polymorphic repeat of said GCG repeat is associated with an increased severity of the disease.

C2

4. (Amended) The gene of claim 3, wherein a phenotype associated with said polymorphic repeat of said GCG repeat is dominant.

5. (Twice amended) The gene of claim 1, wherein a first allele of said GCG repeat of said human patient has an n which is equal to 1.

7. (Amended) The gene of claim 1, wherein said gene is isolated from a patient who is homozygous for said polymorphic GCG repeat.

C3

8. (Amended) The gene of claim 1, wherein said gene is isolated from a patient who is heterozygous for said polymorphic GCG repeat.